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Page 2

7. Met with Bill Darden, Senate Armed Services Committee staff, and explained to him the background leading up to Senator Stuart Symington's request that the Agency brief the Senator whenever CIA had evidence of Soviet firings of ICBMs. I explained that we did not wish to commit ourselves to brief an individual Senator on this type of basis. Mr. Darden agreed wholeheartedly with this view since it would establish a precedent and we could not refuse any other Congressman or Senator. I mentioned that we were prepared to brief on a periodic basis either our own Subcommittees or the principal staff man for relay to the Subcommittee and then to members of the full Committee if the Chairman felt this appropriate. Mr. Darden indicated that he did not wish this type of responsibility and he was sure that the Chairman would not wish him to assume it. He further felt that Senator Russell would not want the Subcommittee briefed on such a basis for relay to members of the full Committee. After further discussion I indicated to Darden that I would suggest to Senator Symington that he take up his request for such briefings with the Chairman of either of his two Committees, Space and Armed Services.

8. Talked with Bob Smart, House Armed Services Committee staff, mentioning Senator Symington's request for briefings and the fact that we did not feel we could comply with the request. Advised Smart that we stood ready to brief him for relay to the Subcommittee on a periodic basis if this were desired. Smart stated very strongly that we could not accede to requests such as Senator Symington's. Further, he did not feel that the Kilday Subcommittee would wish periodic briefings of the type desired but rather would leave it to our discretion to bring to their attention matters that were significant including situations where there had been drastic changes.

Also left with Bob Smart a draft letter

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